the Government. It was settled at a conference with the Director of Agriculture. He has arranged for a compact block of 200 acres to be planted for the purpose of obtaining green-leaf manure. He has also been able to distribute a lot of seeds. The Forest Department too has received instructions to make as much green-leaf manure available as possible.

2. In regard to the second point, *i. e.*, the opening of cart roads through paddy lands and along channel embankments, each case has to be decided on its merits. There is no laying down a general rule on the subject. The Chief Engineer has to inspect each spot and see whether it would be possible to find suitable lands.

3. In regard to the construction of a tank at the tail end of the Tovala channel and improvement of existing ones, the Chief Engineer says that all the useful old tanks are being preserved and maintained for storage of water. He is already investigating the matter of improving the tank at the tail end. So you can take it that the Chief Engineer has got that in hand at present.

4. In regard to the reduction of heavy assessment on *pandarapattam* lands, it has first to be established that the assessment is excessively heavy, and, in any case, the revision of the assessment must stand over and be an item in any general resettlement of the country that may take place.

5. Your representation regarding salt culture will receive consideration.

47. Agricultural improvements with special reference to Central Travancore.

MR. DEVARU VASUDEVARU (*Member, Jenmi, Quilon Division*) first referred to the means of improving the paddy cultivation of certain portions of Central Travancore. These were (1) improvement of the Illimala *todu* which coursed through the Pandanad *pakuthi* and (2) improvement of the Mannar road. In regard to the former, he said that it was useful for the proper cultivation of 7,000 *paras* of *punja* lands and 10,000 *paras* of double crop lands, which had since become silted up. The result was that during the month of Kanni, crops were spoilt through stagnation of water and during Makaram through scarcity. The *todu* should therefore be deepened and rendered useful again. In regard to the Mannar road, he said that, if improved, it would be helpful to the cultivation of the 17,000 *paras* of paddy lands referred to.

Next, the question of the improvement of the *punja* cultivation in Kuttanad was taken up. Besides destroying the bacteria which happened to be the hindrance to effective cultivation there, it was necessary to open up the Cherimuttu *todu* which promoted the cultivation of the *punja* lands in Talavadi, Anaparambu, Edattuva, Champakulam and other places.

Besides these, the Member made the following general suggestions :—

(i) Agricultural demonstration farms should be opened in each taluk.

(ii) Experimental and demonstration farms should be attached to the schools as in Germany, America and other countries.

(iii) More manure depots, cattle farms and seed depots should be opened.

(iv) Agricultural boards should be established and exhibitions arranged.

(v) Most important of all, the officers of the Agricultural Department should move freely with the agricultural population in the rural areas and advise them in agricultural matters.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Devaru Vasudevaru, as you gave no hint at all when you gave notice of the subject as to what the nature of your representations would be, it is not possible to give a definite answer to you except in respect of one item, *i. e.*, Illimala *todu*. In respect of that *todu*, an investigation has been made and an estimate is being prepared.

48. Agriculture in the Pattanapuram taluk.

MR. C. PERCY BHANU (*Member, Pattanapuram taluk*) made the following suggestions for the development of agriculture in the Pattanapuram taluk, which was the only *puduval* taluk in the Quilon Division.

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